## ALBERT BEIT, CECIL RHODES' SUCCESSOR. Is Richest Man in Europe.

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Rhodes is dead, the richest millionaire and his remarkable personality has been quite overshadowed by the colossus, although he was far richer than Rhodes. But he will be in many respects Rhodes' successor, and the fierce light that beats upon a throne will to its shareholders. soon make him one of the most talked about men of the time.

His name is Alfred Belt. Short and ugly as it is, that name could make an otherwise worthless bit of paper into a check that might be used to shake Wall street and Lombard street to their foundations. Whether he is really richer than John Rockefeller is a question that Beit himself probably could not answer. Two men who have been closely associated with him in widely different ways have told me in the last few days that this mancier could probfew days that this financier could probably not scrape more than \$100,000,000 or so just now, although it has been stated in print that he has that many pounds—or half a billion of dollars. Both of these authorities agreed, however, that the end of the war in South Africa, where this vast fortune has its roots, would assuredly bring a prodigious increase in the Beit wealth.

If he keeps on at the rate of the last

ous increase in the Beit wealth.

If he keeps on at the rate of the last ten years, the world will not have to wait much longer before getting its first sight of a billionaire.

Heretofore he has been content to worship Rhodes and to pick up millions, but a man who has been conspicuous in the operations of the chartered company ever since the first Matabele.

company ever since the first Matabele war said last night to the writer: "I venture to predict that Beit, who has been known only as the financier up to now, will be found before long taking up and carrying to completion some of the empire building work Rhodes left well begun, but only haif done. I have reason to believe that Beit caught some of Rhodes' enthusiasm for imperialism to such an extent that he will eventually put money into it without perialism to such an extent that he will eventually put money into it without thought of getting it back, just as Rhodes did. So far as investments in the De Beers company, Johannesburg and in Rhodesia go, Beit is the big man in Africa already, and if he shows administrative power equal to his financial ability his future is going to hold the world's attention. His friendship for Rhodes was something more than an alliance for business purposes. He fairly worshiped the man. He fairly worshiped the man.

This mysterious multi-millonairs was born in the same year. 1853, as the man into whose shoes he is expected to step. Like Rhodes, he is a bachelor, and for the same for the same reason that Rhodes and Kitchener got the credit of being woman-haters—because they were too much engrosed in their ambitions to have time to give attention to domestic affairs. Like both of these men, too, he cares little for society, although there is a plenty of exclusive peers who seem glad to accept an invitation to dine with him at his beautiful house in Park lane, and although many a titled mamma is said to have tried to capture

him for a son-in-law.

Like Rhodes again, he gave no indication in youth of being anything un-usual. He was born in Hamburg 49 years ago, coming of an old, solid He-brew family, not vastly wealthy, bu rich enough to give him a good educa-tion in the German schools and get him a good place in a banking house. His luck began when he was 22 and was drawn to South Africa by news of the diamond discoveries. He got there a little before Cecil Rhodes arrived there in the hope of keeping out of

the early grave to which his physician had surrendered him. Belt made money as a diamond merchant at Kimberley and invested it in diamond mines, which brought him into close touch with young Rhodes, who was laying the foundations of his fortune by his scheme for consolidating the diamond interests—a scheme that proved a godsend to Beit. In fact, Beit seems to have been Rhodes' chief belp-

er in the business.

Beit branched out in the banking business, becoming a partner in the firm of Jules Porges & Co., predecessors of the present great firm of Werner, Beit & Co. When gold was discovered in the Transvaal. Bett was on the ground floor again, and with his Johannesburg parner, Herman Eckstein, soon became one of the great captains of the South African gold industry. He is credited with having transformed South African

MICHAEL CUDANY

JOHN CUDAHY.

governous sometimes and a second sometimes are a second sometimes and a second sometimes are a second sometimes and a second sometimes ar London, May 3 .- Now that Cecil | gold mining from a speculation into a steady, well-organized, conservative business. He had the wit to import the in Europe, and perhaps in the world, is highest quality of American machinery coming out from under cover. His name and to pay predigious salaries to such mining engineers as John Hays Hammond, Hennan Jennings and Louis Seymour to advise and superintend this huge enterprise, which before the war was putting out \$99,000,000 worth of precious metal a year, and which, besides paying heavy taxes to Kruger, turned \$20,000,000 a year of profit over

> This lucky son of Hamburg was grubbing along with only a meager two or three millions in 1900. Most of the stream of wealth that has poured into his coffers ever since came from the gold of Johannesburg and the diamonds of Kimberley. Some of the diamond fortune was pure luck. When Rhodes, Beit and poor Barney Barnato became life governors, under the original De Beers charter, they stipulated, without dreaming that much would come of it beyond making an impression on the shareholders, that they should have a fourth part of the profits, after the company had paid 30 per cent to the shareholders. But the diamonds were so astoundingly plentiful that this fourth of the surplus turned out for ten years before the war about a million dollars a year. When it is considered that Rhodes and Beit were likewise the chief chareholders with their 0 per cent, and their three-fourths of the surplus profit, one can understand how it is that they didn't run short of pin money.

Of course, the war cut off most of this income and Mr. Beit doubtless feels the pinch of poverty severely. It is hard to have to live on the interest of \$100,000,an additional income of maybe a millio or two a year for current expenses.

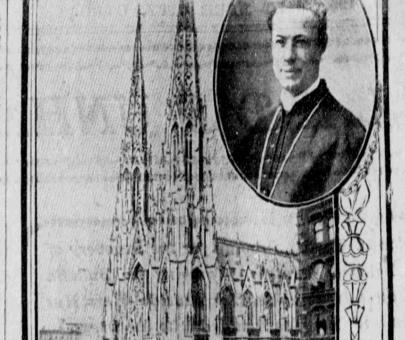
The Beit interests are not limited, however to Johannesburg and Kimber-He helped to originate the British South Africa company, and has huge interests in the Chartered company, paying his share of the company's annual deficits with a steady confidence that showed his loyalty to Rhodes. The DeBeers company got a grant of 400 square miles in Rhodesia, too, in return for its help at the time of the Matabele war. Belt is a director in the Rhodesia Railways, Limited, and was so much in sympathy with Rhodes that he had a hand in the Jameson raid. Through his firms he controls companies having a nominal capital of \$100,000,000, and as most of the stock is listed at high premiums, it may be imagined how great is the influence he ex-ercises. Like Rhodes, again, he doesn't speculate, and the confidence in his judgment and financial integrity is so great that there is a whole swarm of little fellows with only 10 or 20 millions apiece ready to put as much as he asks for into any scheme he has on hand. What manner of man is it who has a grip of more power on human fortunes than ever the autocrat of all the Rus-

He seems to be chiefly remarkable for negative qualities. He has none of the slap-dash, devil-may-care ways that distinguish Barney Barnato, none of the taste for bluffing that made Hooley celebrated, none of Rhodes' command-ing individuality, no fads, no taste for ostentation and no niggardliness. You could not find a better example of polished, courteous, reticent, well balanced man of the world.

A man who has dined occasionally in Beit's Park lane house says he is an admirable host, not effusive, certainly, but simple and cordial and genuine. The house itself has been furnished with an eye to the avoidance of display. Perhaps its most striking feature is a rockery just off the dining room, which, pressure of a button, becomes a beautiful series of waterfalls, delighting the eye and cooling the air. Choice dinners are given there occasionally, and high and mighty folk are often among the guests, but most of them have business connections with the host in one way or another, and women are rarely in-

cluded.

It is dramatic to picture a multi-millionaire as working harder than any of his employes, and as being obliged to live like Rockefeller, on crackers milk providing one can't go to the and milk, providing one can't go to the other extreme, and have him light his cigars with \$1,000 bills and have his pet poodle's teeth filled with gold, which last manifestation is a matter of rec-ord in the history of Hooley. But, unfortunately, this quiet and cour-teous little German Jew does not come up to any of these requirements. He does not even work hard nowadays,



ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN, DECEASED.

and spends a good deal of time riding, a recreation of which he is as fond as Sir Charles Dilke. He has succumbed to the fascinations of golf, too, and although by no means a bon vivant, he seems to get a good deal of quiet enjoyment out of life.

Reticence seems to be the Belt motto. It is harder to get into his business office in Bishopsgate street—the

ness office in Bishopsgate street—the finest business offices in the city—than it is to get into the sanctum sanctor-um of the bank of England; and as for seeing the man himself on any business short of a million or for some personal reason, you cannot even approach his private secretary without an introduction. The clerks in his employ include several members of the aristocracy and nearly all of them are Oxford or Cambridge men. Even the office boy is cultured.

Like Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Beit is a banker only in a select way, a sort of bankers' banker. Any one who wishes to open a private account at the of-

to open a private account at the offices of Alfred Belt & Co., at No. 129 on the thoroughfare quaintly called Bishopsgate street within, or at the offices of Wernher, Beit & Co., in Holborn, probably would be politely turned down by the office boy.

Although this South African potentate is not as lavish in his gifts as Andrew Carnegie and Plerpont Morgan, and has even got the credit of being rather cold toward charity, I am told by a man who ought to know that his personal gifts in the name of his firm have exceeded those of the Rothschilds in the last ten years. An infimate associate credits him with having given half a million dollars to broken-down South African friends since the war began. It is also said that he pays began. It is also said that he pays the best salaries of any employer in

this plutocrat is his ness for the theater. He has no counexcept on business trips. Night after night finds him in a piayhouse! He is one of the most inveterate of London's know him well. He is one of the best subscribers to the Royal Opera season, and is said to be financially interested in one of two West End theaters. Some three years ago the newspapers announced his engagement to Mary Moore, Charles Wyndham's leading woman, and the announce-

ment was never denied, although the marriage did not take place. Another peculiarity for so quiet and unostenfatious a man is that Mr. Beit But, has the reputation of being one of the test dressed men in London. He abhors a wrinkle as much as Cecil Rhodes abhorred fine clothes.—Curtis Brown.

MILLIONAIRES ACCUSED OF CORNERING FOOD SUPPLY.

J.P.LYMAN.

ple trees growing (not like a rose farm that I know of, so-called because there is not a rose about the place). Second, have your house as nice as your means will allow. If brick or wood, have it painted; if a log house, have it whitewashed. Have verandas, arched or Gothic windows; something picturesque, not the old-style square built house that is a blot on the landscape. Have as many conveniences inside as possible. Have a nice diningroom, and possible. Have a nice diningroom, and use it; don't eat in the kitchen. Have a cosy sitting room and use it; don't sit in the kitchen. Have a good, bright lamp to light to read by, not a smoky, evil smelling lamp that will give everyone the blues. Have plenty of papers and magazines, books, music and games. Converse with each other about what you read: exchange ideas; don't what you read; exchange ideas; don't keep your brightest and wittiest rekeep your brightest and wittiest re-marks for company. Dress up in the evening: let the mother put on a pret-ty and becoming dress and the father a clean shirt and collar; also a coat and vest. You will feel more self-re-specting. Set a good example to the chil-dren, and when you don your best clothes you will feel more at home in them. Don't make life a drudgery. Drop work at 6 o'clock; allow your young people to go to any innocent began. It is also said that he pays the best salaries of any employer in annuaement, and let them invite their friends to make merry with them at home. Third, make the outside of your attractive have a good large lawn in front of the house; banish the vegetable gar-den to a less conspicuous position. Have plenty of flowers and flowering vines, plenty of fruit and vegetables. Keep your fence neat and do not have a pig sty at the front gate. Have your home

sty at the front gate. Have your home a piace to be proud of. Last, but not least have your children take an intelligent interest in everything pertaining to the farm; consult with them on all possible occasions, and be sure to make them feel that you are their best friends and desire their good above all things, and that home is the most dehighful place in the world. Then we shall not hear so much about the trouble it is to keep the young folks on the farm.—Practical Farmer.

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mediate points.

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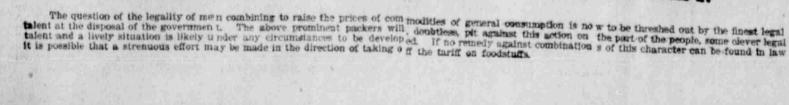
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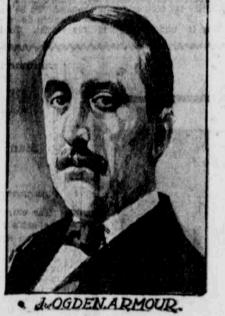


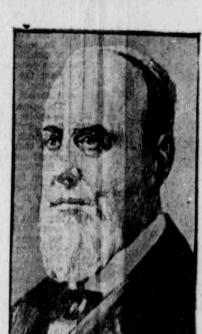
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